

Wendell Police Department

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Driving While Impaired Checkpoint Results

On Friday, September 8, 2017 the Wendell Police Department hosted a multi-agency Driving While Impaired Checkpoint which resulted in 60 charges including one count of driving while impaired.

The checkpoint, which started at 9:00 pm, occurred in the 900 block of Wendell Boulevard and was staffed by members of the Wake County Traffic Safety Task Force. Agencies assisting the Wendell Police Department included the North Carolina State Highway Patrol; and police departments from Apex, Fuquay-Varina, Garner, and Zebulon. A BAT (Breath Alcohol Testing) Mobile Unit was provided by the Forensic Tests for Alcohol Branch of the North Carolina Department of Public Health and allowed for on-scene processing of violators charged with driving while impaired. Additionally Raleigh/Wake City-County Bureau of Identification provided assistance with processing arrestees and the Wake County Magistrate's Office provided a magistrate to process persons arrested thereby reducing the amount of time officers were off their assignments. Mothers Against Drunk Driving members were also present to provide refreshments and support to officers and staff working the checkpoint.

In addition to the one driving while impaired arrest, other charges included seven misdemeanor drug violations, twenty-six charges of having no operator's license, twelve charges of driving while license revoked, five charges for expired registration, one charge of failure to yield to blue lights and siren, one charge of driving the wrong way on a divided highway, one charge of open container of alcohol, one charge of illegal blue lights, one charge for seatbelt violation, one charge for littering and three charges for other traffic offenses.

Wendell Police Chief Bill Carter said the Wake County Traffic Safety Task Force conducts these checkpoints across the county as a means of deterring motorists from operating vehicles while impaired. This particular checkpoint occurred during the statewide "Labor Day Booze It & Lose It" campaign that ran from August 18 through September 9. Chief Carter said: "Safety on the roads is the responsibility of each of us. We ask that citizens report driving or other behaviors which may place people at risk on our roads. Working together as a team, law enforcement and the community can make our roads safer."

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